



Filed Via ECFS

January 5, 2018

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Notice of Ex Parte – WC Docket No. 10-90

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 4, 2018 Jerry Weikle, representing ERTA, spoke by phone with Jay Schwarz of Chairman Ajit Pai's office.

There was discussion about the important role Universal Service Fund ("USF") support plays to address the lack of broadband in rural America. There was discussion about the uncertainty facing Rate of Return ("RoR") companies because of persistent USF funding cuts. ERTA believes that additional funding is needed for Rate of Return ("RoR") companies to provide broadband to more unserved areas. Additional funding for A-CAM companies would still be useful to provide broadband to more unserved areas.

There was discussion about ERTA's desire for the FCC to instruct USAC to continue collecting the budgeted \$4.5 billion for high cost USF on a retroactive basis to the beginning of this year as well as using reserves for additional funding.

If there are any questions, I can be reached at 704.782.7738.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jerry Weikle

Jerry Weikle
Regulatory Consultant

cc: Jay Schwarz